June 2007 Rs.10/- 80 Pages

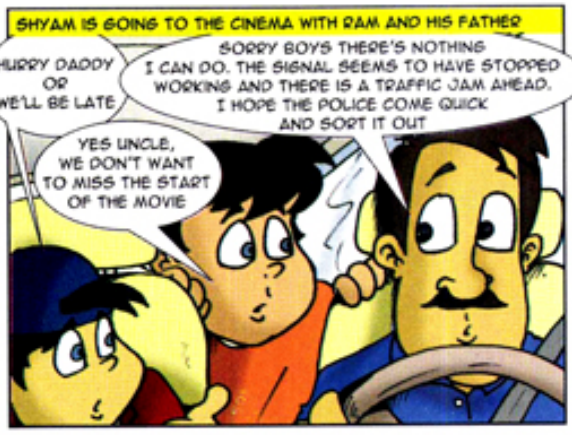
GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

A Different Drum
- New Serial

CARTOON CRAZE!

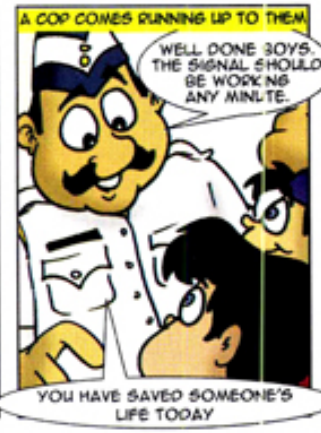
PARLE
MMM...POPPINS!
POPPINS
Ram and Shyam
Traffic


SHYAM IS GOING TO THE CINEMA WITH RAM AND HIS FATHER
HURRY DADDY OR WE'LL BE LATE
SORRY BOYS THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO. THE SIGNAL SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED WORKING AND THERE IS A TRAFFIC JAM AHEAD. I HOPE THE POLICE COME QUICK AND SORT IT OUT
YES UNCLE, WE DON'T WANT TO MISS THE START OF THE MOVIE

SUDDENLY RAM AND SHYAM SEE AN AMBULANCE ALSO STUCK ALONGSIDE THEM
WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING TO GET THAT AMBULANCE THROUGH. SOMEONE REALLY NEEDS HELP
I AGREE, IT IS UPTO US

RAM AND SHYAM HOP OUT OF THE CAR AND RUN TO THE CENTRE OF THE CROSSROAD WHERE THEY WHIP OUT THE PACK OF POPPINS FROM THEIR WRISTBANDS
THEY EAT RED AND GREEN POPPINS AND THE SIGNALS LIGHT UP ACCORDINGLY

THE TRAFFIC SLOWLY STARTS MOVING AND CLEARING UP AND THE AMBULANCE ZOOMS THROUGH AS WELL
VROOOOM!


A COP COMES RUNNING UP TO THEM
WELL DONE BOYS. THE SIGNAL SHOULD BE WORKING ANY MINUTE.
YOU HAVE SAVED SOMEONE'S LIFE TODAY

IT HAS SAVED THE DAY AGAIN
ALL THANKS TO OUR POPPINS
GOOD WORK BOYS. YOU HAVE HELPED A LOT OF PEOPLE TODAY BY CLEARING UP THE TRAFFIC. AND WE CAN STILL MAKE IT FOR THE MOVIE IF WE HURRY
DON'T WORRY WE'VE GOT A LOT MORE POPPINS HANDY
JUST IN CASE WE RUN INTO ANY MORE SIGNALS
PARLE
POPPINS
GOLI RAINBOW WALL

CONTENTS

Favourites :
Grandmaworm, Viewpoint, Jokes, Hello Doctor, Colour Burst, Creative Corner, Let's Cook Up, News Digest, Pottering Around.

The drawing featured on top of each page is by
G.NANDHAN,
Std.VII,
Adarsh Vidhya Kendra,
Nagercoil

Stories

Haunted Graveyard	8
King's Greatness	35
Skit- Number Quarrel	39
Terrorists are not Born	44

Picture Stories

Spread your Wings	25
Kesuraja and his Nose	52
Billu	80

Articles

In the Wild – Sea Horse	4
Newspaper- A Window to the World	10
Personality- Ilayaraja	50
Krishna's presence and Power	62

Serials

Computer Saga	36
Just for You	48

A DIFFERENT DRUM

NEW SERIAL
Pg. 20

KALKI GROUP
HOUSE of QUALITY

JUNE 2007
Vol.XIX, No.12

**Of all created things the loveliest.
And most divine are children.**
- William Canton

GOKULAM
THE Magazine for Children

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HOUSE of QUALITY
GOKULAM

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THE Magazine for Children

Dear Reader,

"Spiderman-3" is here in Chennai. Probably it's running to packed houses in your city too. Some say it's a "Super-Duper" movie, while others feel it's 'messy'. Press reviews too are both favourable and critical.

When Spiderman was first created as a comic strip, I just lapped it up. I was dazzled by the powers he had at his disposal and was convinced by the accidental manner in which he acquired them. But the spiderman of yesterday was also intensely human and emotional. He had his weaknesses too.

The Greatest Battle Lies Within!

As movie moguls made a great screen hero out of him, his superhuman capabilities took precedence over human tendencies. In each film the stunt scenes became more and more important and the emotional aspect was overshadowed. With computer tech one can do amazing things in stunt scenes to keep the audience spell-bound and at the edge of their seats.

However I'm glad that the producers have not forgotten to add in the advertisements the slogan, "The greatest battle lies within". To be more explicit the big battle is in our hearts and the battle is always between right and wrong.

And that is what spiderman is all about.

- Editor

Our environment, the world in which we live and work is a mirror of our attitudes and expectations. This environment is degraded and destroyed by us. Global warming and climate change is the concern of the hour. The causes are well known but its effects are dangerous. It leads to ocean warming, melting of glaciers, coastal flooding, drying up of rivers, droughts, famines and what not?! Developing countries like India are in a precarious situation as it may affect our main stay - agriculture.

Climate change and global warming is not all gloom and doom. In the recent discussion of the U.N.O., it has been found that 50-80% of the carbon emissions should be reduced. It is better late than never. This is what we can do about it :

- Save fuel. Walk or cycle to nearby places and use public transports for farther ones.
- Try to avoid gas-guzzling cars and aero planes.
- Sustainable development-use non-conventional eco-friendly resources like solar energy, wind energy, tidal energy, etc.
- Save trees. 'Each one plant one'-this should be the policy.
- Follow the three R's-reduce (cut down on your needs), reuse (if not possible then), recycle.
- It's high time scientists found suitable and cheaper technologies to make use of renewable resources.

- V.Ramya,
Std.XII, P.S.B.B.S.S.,
Chennai

USE RENEWABLE RESOURCES!

A Slow

The strange sea creatures, with large heads resembling the horse's head, are in fact bony fish that belong to the family of syngnathidae. They have been rightly named as sea-horse!

The sea horse's body is covered with rough bony plates. Its tail is just like that of a snake.

Sea-horses vary in size (10 cm to 30 cm) and colour, but they all have the same basic shape. They are found in all the oceans of the world. There are 100 species, which may be white, yellow, red or blue. When resting, a sea-horse coils its tail round a piece of seaweed. Even when they want to feed, sea horses hold on to a seaweed with their tails and pick food out of the water as it floats by.

The sea-horse swims in an upright position, using its dorsal (back) fin to drive it along. The fin vibrates very rapidly (upto 35 times a second), yet it is the slowest moving fish. It hovers in the water, propelling itself and even at the maximum speed, it would take the sea horse about two and a half days to cover a distance of one kilometre!

The sea-horse is unusual in another way. The female seahorse has a long egg laying organ which is used to place the eggs in the pouch of the male seahorse's belly. During courtship, the female places her eggs in this

pouch and the male then fertilizes them. The male sea-horse can take care of up to three broods every year, with as many as 50 eggs in each brood. The eggs hatch in the pouch of the male and the tiny young sea-horses leave the pouch about five weeks after the eggs are laid.

Sea-horses face the least danger from their enemies, because other sea fishes do not like to eat them at all!

Horse!

USE IN CHINESE MEDICINE

The seahorse is used in traditional Chinese herbology, and as many as 20 million seahorses may be caught each year and sold for this purpose. Medicinal seahorses are not readily bred in captivity as they are susceptible to disease and have somewhat different energetics than aquarium seahorses. Seahorse populations have therefore become endangered in recent years, by overfishing.

- Akash A.Kalal,
Std.V,
Carmel High School,
Bengalooru

LETTER BOX

I like Gokulam very much and I am a regular reader. All the contents are excellent. It has variety, provides a lot of knowledge and it improves the reading and language skills of its readers. It is a super - star! Gokulam is the best magazine in the world.

- S.Dhivija, Std.IX, SBOA MHSS, Chennai

I am a regular reader and contributor of Gokulam. My contributions get published in every issue. It gives me great confidence and helps me develop my writing skills

G - Goal
O - Obedience
K - Knowledge
U - Unity

Hi! I am a regular reader of Gokulam. I love it very much. it is a superb magazine for children. I wish you would give more information and pictures of HP, and honourable Shri. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. I congratulate the whole Gokulam team for publishing such a nice magazine.

- Tharuna Ganacharma, Andamans

SUPER

I am an ardent reader and fan of Gokulam.It has all the qualities of making a child a genius. It would be welcomed if quiz is introduced in Gokulam. Thanks a lot Gokulam for all the moral support and you are my best friend.

- Udith, Std.V, Vidya Vardhaka Sangha, Bengalooru

I came across Gokulam just a year back. It is a fantastic magazine not only for kids but for people of all ages.The stories, articles, facts are really worth reading. I wish the success, and achievements to the Gokulam team.

- S.Sharon Frederick, Std.VI, St.Meera's School, Bengalooru.

L - Loyalty
A - Ability
M - Morality

Totally Gokulam is a treasure for all.

- A.Anees Fathima,
Std.X,
Uthamapalayam.

✉ It is so interesting and very exciting. I never fail to read even one issue of Gokulam.

- M.Shruthi,
Std.IX,
Bengalooru

✉ I am a new reader of Gokulam. I came to know about it from my best friend. I enjoy reading Gokulam very much. I like 'Hello Doctor, Poet's Corner, Experience and Grandmaworm. I like Gogo's Grid very much. I eagerly wait for it every month. I request you to make Gokulam a weekly magazine.

- Adithya M.Pai, Std.VII, SCGVUPS, Kochi

STAR GOKULAM!

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE SPECIAL PRIZE!

Dear Readers,

You must be aware that participation certificates are issued to those of you whose contributions are published in Gokulam.

The much awaited time has come now for you to count your certificates. If you feel you have collected a good number of certificates from us (July 2006 to June 2007), please send in xerox copies of the certificates along with a covering letter, giving details of your name, class, school, residential address. Remember wait for the June 2007 certificates.

Send in your entries by July 10th 2007.

Keep contributing!

The scheme continues.

There was an old college behind a dilapidated graveyard. Once on new year's eve, everyone at the college was enjoying except two girls Lata and Priya. They were new to the college. Moreover they were labelled as nervous beings. They stayed at the college hostel.

After a fewdays, they observed some colourful lights in the graveyard.

Oneday, they saw two masked men digging up the graveyard. They decided to report the matter to the principal Mr.Mallik. He was a simple man. He listened to them and then said, "people say it is a haunted place". He told them to forget about it.

Lata and Priya decided to find out who was behind these mysterious happenings. They came out of the

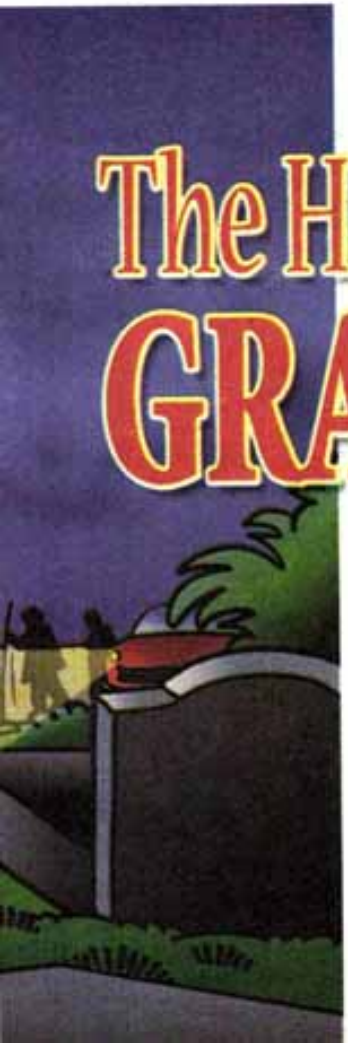
college and stealthily moved towards the graveyard and hid there. After sometime, they saw some cars coming and halting there. Some men who looked dangerous came out and took some bags from the car, buried them in the graveyard and drove away fast.

The girls reported the matter to the police. The police inspector came along with some constables and hid there. The police inspector saw the cars coming. He saw one of the men and immediately recognized him. He was a notorious thief who had escaped from the lock up. He made up his mind to catch the culprit.

The next day, he came again with many of his constables, and as soon as the thief and his gang came, they were caught. They had robbed a bank and they were hiding the money in the graveryard.

They would come everyday and check their money. They would sell illegal arms to the naxalites and the head of the gang was Mr.Mallik, the principal!

The Haunted GRAVEYARD!



Lata and Priya were astonished to see their principal involved in the crime. Next day, their friends congratulated and embraced them. From then onwards, they were known as the detective due of the college!. The Chief Minister awarded them with a sum of Rs 10,000 each and it was the happiest day in their lives!

- Mohammed Nizam, Std VIII,
Kendriya Vidyalaya,
Golconda

Newspapers are the first to greet us good morning each day. It feels lovely to look at the newspaper in the early hours of the morning.

Newspapers are highly significant in our lives. The importance of newspapers cannot be measured. Apart from its main duty of providing us with information on current affairs, newspapers mould us into knowledgeable and practical human beings. We find a wide range of newspapers today in different languages. The times of India, The Deccan Herald, The Hindu, Indian express are some of the leading newspapers available.

There are a number of columns in a single edition of a newspaper ranging from sports, hot news, politics, cinema, social situations, business etc. Modern newspapers are designed in such a way that people of all age groups and standards can benefit from them.

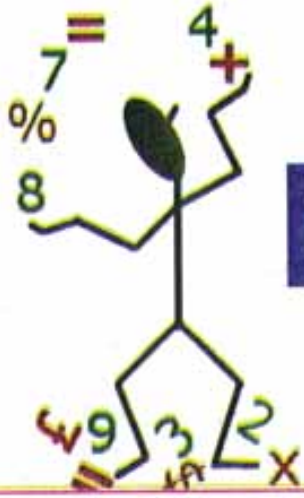
Newspapers lay a foundation to healthy reading. As we read the newspaper, we come across new and extraordinary facts that were earlier unknown to us. From a tender age, children must be taught to read newspaper columns reserved exclusively for them which contain activities and General knowledge. This will improve their IQ and language skills. Newspapers carry colourful and eye-catching supple-

A Window to the

Insert the mathematical symbols (+, -, x, ÷) between the number series given below to get the answer 100, without changing the order of the series.

987654321 = 100

- A.Anees Fathima, Std.X,
SAB Matriculation Higher Sec. School,
Uthamapalayam



Answer (Three ways) :

1) 9 x 8 + 7 + 6 + 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 100
2) 98 - 76 + 54 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 100
3) 98 + 7 - 6 + 5 - 4 + 3 - 2 - 1 = 100

ments that have fun-filled activities. New and improved additions to newspapers like Quick Sudoku and many other mind bogglers help us to sharpen our minds.

With a lot of newspapers published in cities it becomes rather confusing as to which news to read and believe. Newspaper editors and publishers compete with each other to provide quality and accurate news to the public. As a result, in some instances, the information gets wrongly published and leads to confusion among the readers. Hence, we must always subscribe to a newspaper from a publisher.

Journalism is being chosen by many youngsters who possess a flair for writing. They work ruthlessly to provide us with the best possible news each day. The newspaper is like a friend and guide to us. It not only enlightens us with facts, but also helps us improve, language and writing. Don't we feel sad and angry when we don't receive the newspaper even a single day?

- Anju V Nambiar, Std.IX,
Ladyhill Victoria Girls High School, Mangalore.

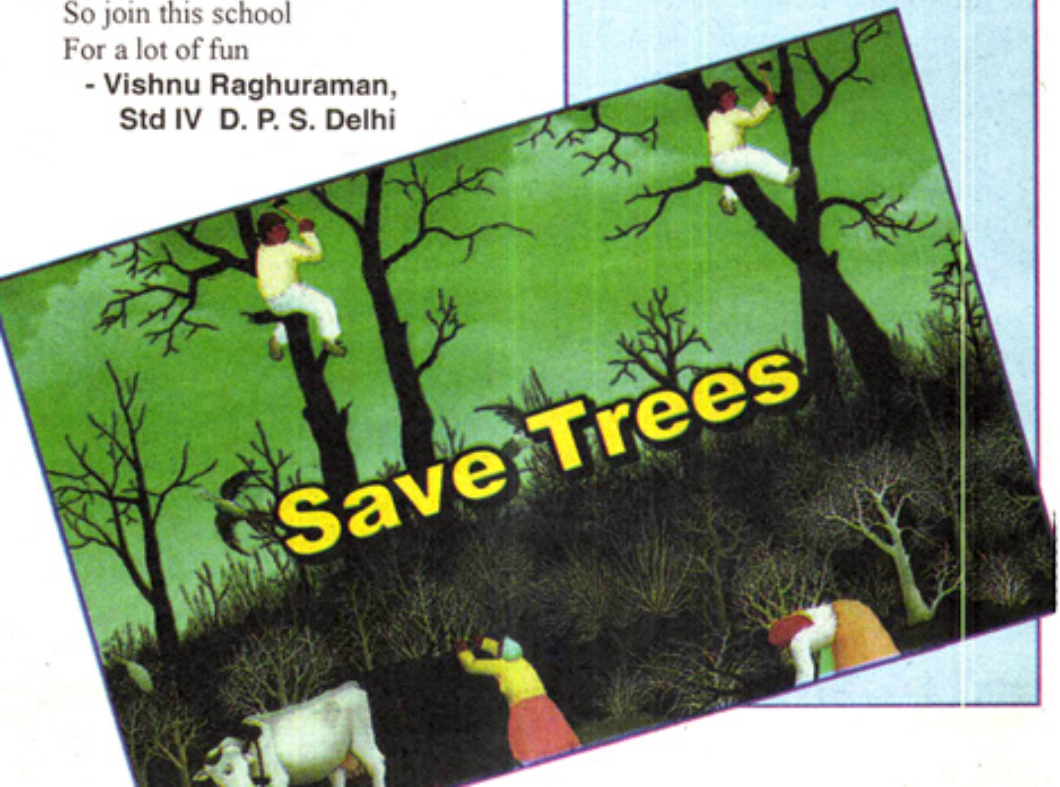
If I opened a school
It would be near the beach,
It would be a lot of fun
With no teachers to teach!

We can roam there,
And roam here,
There will be no punishments,
So why fear!
So join this school
For a lot of fun

- Vishnu Raghuraman,
Std IV D. P. S. Delhi

A heave and a Ho!
The threes are cut to and fro.
This is done for the need of wood,
Much to the opposite of good.
What I mean is bad,
Oh, Those people are mad.
What is left is carbon-di-oxide,
As most of the greenery has died.
Inside a forest you can see
the sky blue,
Oh! Destroyers, do stop!
Wont you?
For those trees we must care,
To ruin Nature, we shouldn't dare!
So please, please, please
Stop cutting trees.

-V.R. Chittarajan,
Std VI Oxford School
Bengalooru.



ON THE TRAIN

The first time I was travelleing by a train,
The weather was humid and it was about to rain.

As I gazed outside from my seat,
I could see the approaching clouds
Sweeping away the heat.

The lush green fields swayed in the breeze,
Home-coming birds flew down with ease.

A four year old boy came asking for food,
This sight changed my mood.

I gave a share of food to the boy
And could see in his face a glimpse of joy.

Strange, we claim India to be a developed nation,
Where milllions still cannot afford ration.

Thousands starve to sickeness and death,
As I wondered about the Life more and more,
I only felt more depressed and sore.

The train journey lucidly depicts human life,
And teaches us to care for the less fortunate.

- Ipsit Bibhudarshi,
Class-XI,
St.Paul's School,

What Should I Say?

If I meet God, what should I say?
Make me a princess, just for a day.

If I meet daddy, what should I say?
Hug and play with me the whole of today!

If I meet mummy, what should I say?
I don't want to eat for one whole day!

If I meet an architect, what should I say?
Build me a house in the clouds right away!

If I meet my principal, what should I say?
Let me just paly on school today.

If I meet my doctor,
what should I say?
Oh! I'll just see the injection, quickly run away!

- Khushi Suraj Std. I
St. Michael Academy,
Chennai

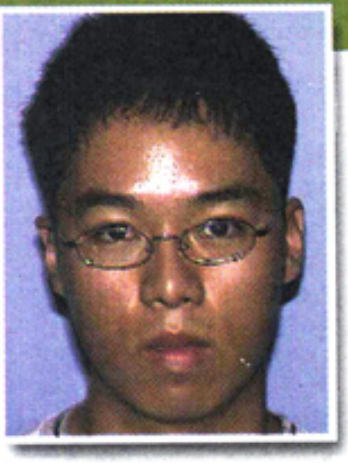
It is shocking, gruesome and tragic. But there is no escaping from realities. Cho Seung-hui, a student in Virginia Tech University went on a killing spree, gunning down 32 people both students and staff before shooting himself. He had also made a video of himself, in between the killings and sent it to NBC which telecast it! Seeing him totting guns with both hands and abusing viewers came as a culture shock. Many felt it could have been suppressed by NBC after reporting to the police. Cho, it is now known, had a mental problem and had been hospitalised for some time. How could such a person acquire guns? How is it that he gained admission in a Premier University? Why didn't the University authori ties take any action immediately after his first attack on two of his colleagues? The questions still remain unanswered!

• • •

A satellite launch vehicle of ours, the PSLV made a commercial launch of the Italian Satellite 'Agile'. This means we have the spare capacity and ability to put into orbit, satellites made by other countries, for a fee. It also confirms that our rates are competitive on an international scale.

• • •

LAW Breakers



• Cho

as LAW Makers!

Crimes and Criminals are nothing new, but if political parties continue to field law breakers as their candidates to become law makers, then, God save this country!

• • •

The latest from Airbus Industry the A 380 made an exhibition landing in New Delhi. It is a huge plane, a double decker, with rows of passenger seats on the upper deck as well as lower deck - just like a double decker bus only several times bigger and with wings!

• • •

Babu Bhai Katara, a B.J.P member of Parliament was caught while trying to smuggle a woman to a foreign country, posing her as his wife and using a forged passport! Following this, intense investigation revealed an organised racket of human trafficking. Several persons have been arrested.

Sohrabuddin and his wife Kausarbi were killed by the police in Gujarat. Sohrabuddhin's death was falsely claimed as an encounter death and the police won acclamation for the death of a 'terrorist'. Kausarbi was reported 'missing'. The truth would not have come out but for Sohrabuddin's brother approaching the Supreme court for help. The opposition claims that the police could not have acted so brutally unless they had political backing from those in power in Gujarat.

• Katara

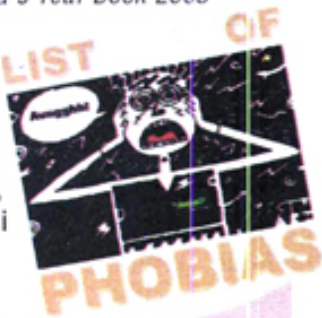
WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?

A phobia is an irrational, persistent fear of certain situations, objects, activities, or persons. The main symptom of this disorder is the excessive, unreasonable desire to avoid the feared subject. When the fear is beyond one's control, or if the fear is interfering with daily life, then a diagnosis should be made.

Fear of heights - Altophobia
Fear of bacteria- Bactracophobia
Fear of meat - Carnophobia
Fear of women- Gynophobia
Fear of clouds- Nephophobia
Fear of animals- Zoophobia
Fear of tests- Testophobia

Source -Sura's Year Book 2005

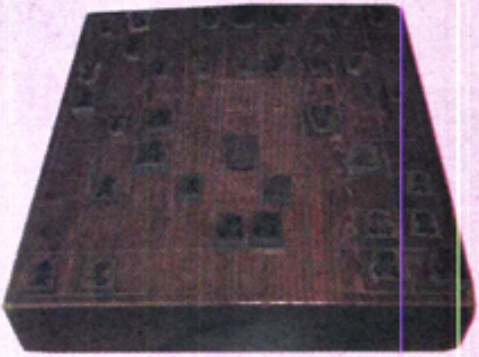
- Krithika Raman, Std. VII, S.B.O.A School, Chennai



DID YOU KNOW?

In the world 10% men and 8 % women are left handed.

- L.Varshini, Std.VII, Tamil Girls Maha Vidyalaya, Srilanka



* Shogi

FACT ZONE

- Shogi is a Japenese form of chess.
- Old Glory is a nick name for the American Flag.
- Ann and Jane Taylor wrote 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' in 1806

- K.Lalithapriya, Std.X, Trichy

Here's a very easy to prepare, healthy and yummy dish for you. Try it out. This dish is known as Marie Laddu.

Ingredients:

1 Packet Marie Biscuit (plain)
Milkmaid (½ tin)
3-4 tsps coconut powder
Some dry fruits

Method:

- Break the biscuits into small pieces and make them into a powder using the mixie.
- Pour some milkmaid little by little on the powder and make it into a stiff dough.
- Make balls from the dough and sprinkle some coconut powder over each of them.
- Chop dry fruits such as cashewnuts, kishmish, almonds, etc and roll the laddus in the mixture till a few pieces cling to them.

Your homemade Marie Laddu is ready.

- G.P.Preeti, Std VIII, Convent of Jesus and Mary School, New Delhi - 110 001

P.ARVIND,
Std.VI, Andhra
School, New Delhi.

S.S. POORANI,
Std.IX, Ponnaiyah
Ramajayam Public
School, Tanjore.

S.SRINIVAS RAGHAVAN,
Std.IV, New Horizon
Public School,
Bengalooru

ANJALI CHANDRASHEKAR,
Std.VIII, P.S.B.B.,
Chennai

Colour Burst

SMRITI MURALI
Std.VI, St. Josephs,
Pune

ASHISH ABHISHEK SENAPATI,
Std.I, Loyola School,
Bhubaneswar

NEW SERIAL

CHAPTER - 1

A Different DRUM

A Pocketful of Woes!

"Shanmuga! Are you ready yet?"

Shanmugam put his storybook away hurriedly and fished out the history book that he was supposed to be studying. He had a test that day, and didn't want to put up a bad show – his marks had been slipping in the past month –

"Are you still reading that

Artemis Fowl novel?" Amma rushed into the hall, hurriedly flung his shoes and socks at the sofa and vanished back into the kitchen. "Have you arranged your books? And what about that history test? It's at 7.30!"

Shanmugam smiled. "You really mustn't be quite so tense," he murmured, pushing his book into his bag. "You know what they say about stress," as his mother rushed into the bedroom for money to pay the cable TV man. "It can actually give you heart attacks."

"Little idiot." She smiled almost in spite of herself.

"What do you have to do today?" he asked. She had been looking tired lately. Small wrinkles lined her forehead; her face looked pinched and drawn. Appa had left early, looking worried. He always looked worried, these days.

"More letters for Mrs. Jayaseth. You know that with the summer coming up, she's organizing a series of creative workshops and activities for young children. There's also the summer camp at Thoddayil; and we're working on bringing out a manual for 'How to be the Best Mother.' So it's a full day." She looked at a gray strand of hair in a rather puzzled manner, and then tucked it away.

Shanmugam looked at her for a long moment, and then walked into the kitchen.

"Have your idlis before you go," Amma called out. The phone jangled shrilly, shattering the silence. Shanmugam could hear Amma hastily picking up the receiver. "Yes, Mrs. Jayaseth. No Ma'am. Yes, I'll do it at once. I'm so sorry, but the file's in the top drawer. No. Yes, of course. I'm sorry. I understand how this disturbs you. I'll be there. At once." He heard her replace the

receiver softly; heard her sigh.

Ten minutes later, when Amma went back in, she found the counter clean, with the washed vessels, which would otherwise have been jumbled in a mess, now neatly put away. Shanmugam was out in the hall. He had put on his shoes and was now hanging his bag on his shoulder.

"Thank you," she said softly.

He grinned. The smile lit up his soft brown eyes, transforming his rather ordinary, nondescript face. "It wasn't me, you know. There's a little ghost in the kitchen. He does it."

"And this little ghost is called Shanmugam too?"

"Maybe."

"Off with you! And all the best for the test."

Shanmugam waved, stepped out, and banged the door shut. Normally, he would have skipped downstairs three steps at a time – his apartment didn't have a lift – but the test was weighing on him. Which year had Babar ascended the throne? When had the First World War started? What were the principal rivers in Kenya? Who cared how many rivers Kenya had? Did it even have any? He groaned again. He was going to fail, he just knew it. He never was much good at History, anyway.

His school was near enough that he could walk to it. It took him a full fifteen minutes, though. He had to walk though Bhaasha Street, cut through the Corporation playground, cross Harimala Provisions and there was his school: large, gray, four stories high. This was actually a short-cut; there was a much longer route that kids took when they came in cars. Oh, not to his school, but the one beside it - the one with the posh, red and white brickwork, with sloping roofs and pillars that glinted in the sunlight. The one that had all those fashionable cars parked in front.

The school that Apurva Jayaseth went to.

The thought made him walk

quicker. He hunched up his shoulders, pulled his bag closer and began to run across the road. Apurva might be here any minute – he usually started a little late because he came in a car – and Shanmugam really didn't want to be seen by him–

Too late!

A gleaming Hyundai Accent screeched to a stop right in front of him, making Shanmugam fling himself backwards for balance. He leaned against the rather dirty concrete wall, yellow with old betel juice.

Slender fingers appeared on the window of the car. A tall, fair boy stepped out, dressed in perfect white pants, blue shirt, wearing an expensive watch and sneakers. A shiny shoulder-bag hung from his shoulders; one of his perfect eyebrows rose quizzically. His gold watch glinted in the early morning sunlight.

"Well, well, well," he drawled. "If it isn't our pathetic little errand-boy."

Shanmugam felt his face grow hot. He straightened his uniform and stood taller. Then, he tried to cross the boy.

Apurva's eyes turned scornful. Deliberately, he dropped his expensive bag to the road. "Pick that up. Take it to my class."

Shanmugam felt the familiar knot of fear and revulsion tighten in his stomach. This was an almost daily routine. It wasn't as though Apurva didn't have people enough to run his errands – there was his driver, sitting in the front seat, grinning at him – but this was one of the best ways to taunt Shanmugam. Shanmugam's mother worked for Apurva's ... so Shanmugam must work for Apurva too. That was what Apurva dinned into him.

In the evenings, when Shanmugam went to his mother's office after school – which happened to be Apurva's home – he'd managed to slither out of Apurva's attempts to slave-drive him. Sometimes he resisted bringing him lunches, pick-

ing and carrying, and running on errands. It was easy when Amma was around – but alone, he was caught.

"Come on, servant-boy. You know what'll happen to your mother's job if you don't do what I say," Apurva wagged a finger at him. "One word to my mum, and she'll sack her. Get it? It's not like you're good for anything else, anyway. You failed in your Maths test, right?"

"I. Did. Not. Fail." Shanmugam grit the words out.

"Li-ar!" Apurva said in a singsong voice. "Pick the bag up, I said." Two or three boys walked by, looking at the scene. One of them, Shenbaganathan, a classmate of Shanmugam, stopped, curious.

Shanmugam stood still. He could not let Apurva bully him endlessly. Not in front of his friends. He could not. His tongue tied itself in knots. His knees felt weak. But what if Apurva said something and Amma lost her job?

Then, he braced himself. He would be strong. "I won't." His voice shook with fear.

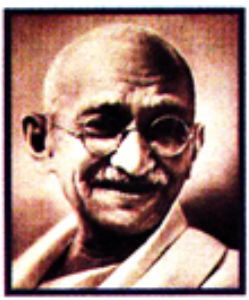
Apurva's mouth twisted. An evil glint entered his eyes. "You're going to pay for this, you know."

Shanmugam knew what was coming. He prepared to make a sudden leap through the gap between Apurva and the car – when the boy's leg caught him in the shin. His lunch box rolled into the dust, idlis spilling out!

The next instant, Shanmugam's eyes opened wide in horror.

(To be continued)

Golden Principle

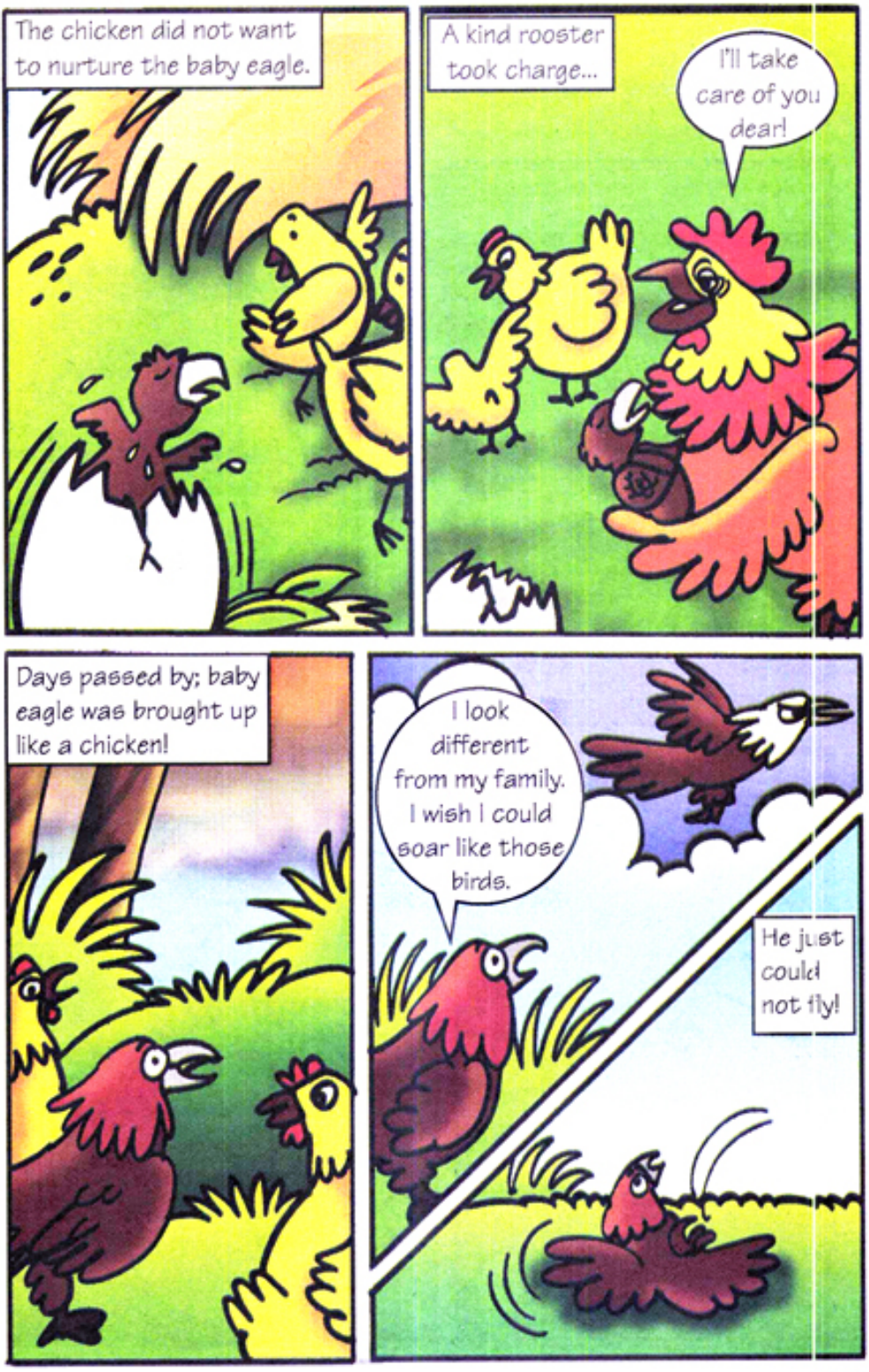


The great reformer of our country Mahatma Gandhi is also known for time conservation. Gandhi would brush for 10 minutes. He did not want to waste that time so he wrote a shloka from Bhagvat Gita that was to be memorised, and read it while brushing his teeth. So friends, let us also follow his golden principles.

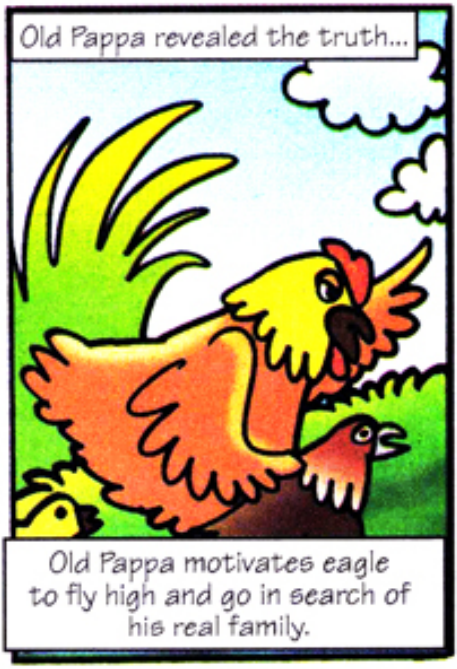
- K. Srinivas Sricharan, Std X, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Chennai

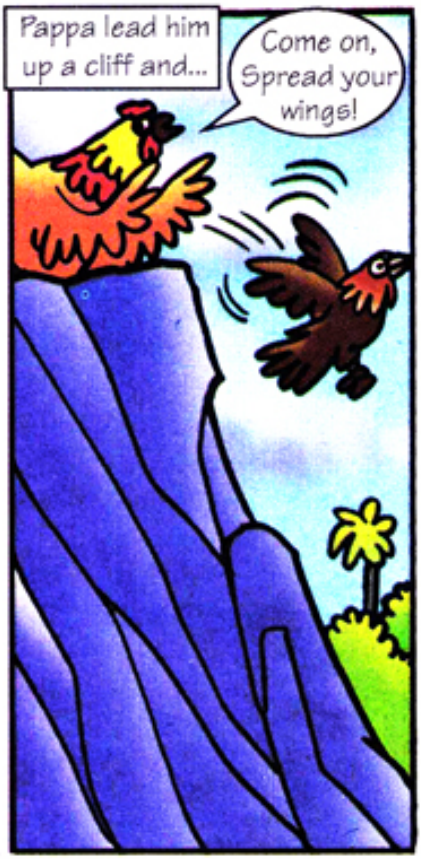
SPREAD YOUR WINGS!

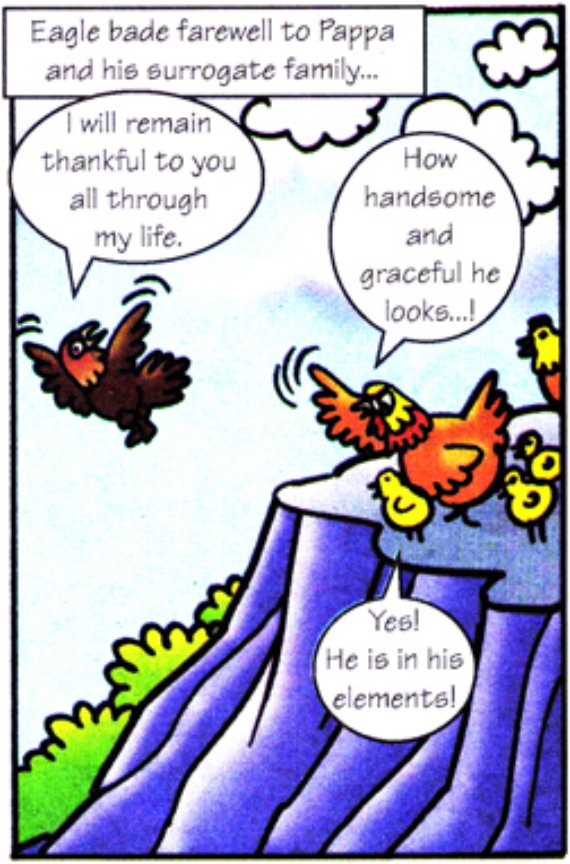
Story: V.Swetha Patwa, Std VI, Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Hosur. Picture: Magesh


The chicken did not want to nurture the baby eagle.
A kind rooster took charge...
I'll take care of you dear!
Days passed by; baby eagle was brought up like a chicken!
I look different from my family. I wish I could soar like those birds.
He just could not fly!

I want to fly... My wings long to soar high...
Yes, you can dear! You are an eagle...


Old Pappa revealed the truth...
Old Pappa motivates eagle to fly high and go in search of his real family.


Pappa lead him up a cliff and...
Come on, Spread your wings!


Eagle bade farewell to Pappa and his surrogate family...
I will remain thankful to you all through my life.
How handsome and graceful he looks...!
Yes! He is in his elements!

THE CARTOON CRAZE: Think Before

Aparna, an eight year old, watches TV almost six hours a day. It is because of this habit of their daughter that her parents have bought a new television set at home! Parents today, want to keep their children happy rather than discipline them. We should realize the effects of over-viewing of cartoon channels. What do we benefit by seeing these programmes?

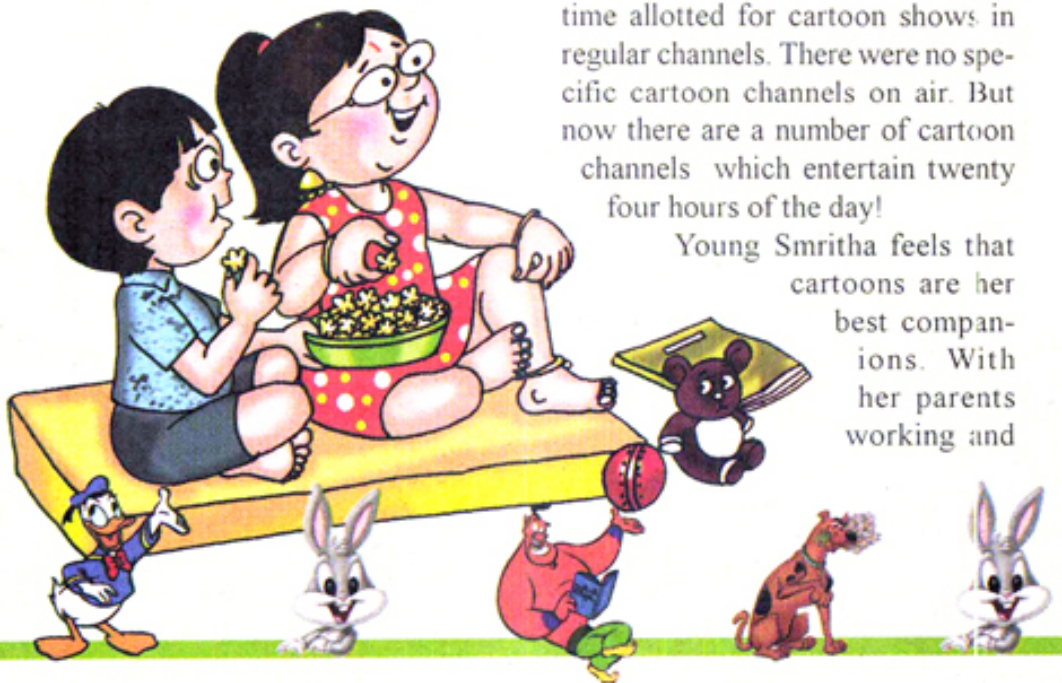
* Aparna

It's a tricky situation. How does the content we watch impact us? When does it hurt our pliable brains? In today's world one cannot shirk his face from the media and exist all by himself. It has become a part and parcel of everybody's life. But who will draw the stop line and how do we know if the programme we love is really good for us?

The best way to judge, is to think before we watch.

Earlier, there used to be a certain time allotted for cartoon shows in regular channels. There were no specific cartoon channels on air. But now there are a number of cartoon channels which entertain twenty four hours of the day!

Young Smritha feels that cartoons are her best companions. With her parents working and



SOWJANYA.S

a much older brother, she feels it is the only easy way to spend her time. Her favourites: Mr. Bean, Scooby Doo.

With the fast - paced life of parents and vanishing joint family setup, television is used by mothers as a 'babysitter'! Thus, T.V has entered the prime zone of a baby's daily schedule.

You Watch!

How many of us switch on the T.V as soon as we come back from school? We continue to watch with a plateful of snack in our hands, unaware of the clock ticking away.

Of course there are a few good aspects too, in the cartoons or any programmes telecast by channels. Some of them offer mythological stories which help mould our mind. Aparna has learnt to narrate Hanuman's story so well by watching T.V., that her parents are more than happy that they bought the second TV. Smritha has won an oratorical extempore competition telling a moral story watched by her on one such exclusive channel for kids.

Chitra, a schoolteacher, strongly feels that restricted hours of television viewing curb a child's creativity and spontaneous thinking. She also feels that when programmes are dubbed to local language they lose their essence.

A coin has two sides and so does the content of TV. Under the guidance of our parents and teachers we should choose a programme that will

help us enhance our vocabulary, build our imagination and kindle our thinking.

* Chitra

Do you all know that the cartoons we watch in our regional language are international hit shows adapted in the local language? The content is basically not for the Indian audience.

The content we watch often includes violence and viewing not suitable for the age. Moreover it has been found that children who spend a lot of time in front of the television do poorly in school and have poor eating habits. TV watching also reduces the time spent engaging verbally and socially with others and consequently affects intellectual and speech development.

Ofcourse, it is impossible to completely banish T.V from our lives. However, we could follow certain key points while watching TV channels :

- Choose programmes which are informative, educative and entertaining. Seek parent's help while deciding on the programmes.
- Stick to the schedule.
- Cultivate the reading habit, as books are man's best friends.
- Develop other hobbies such as building models, drawing.
- Playing outdoor is very important. Spend quality time for physical exercise.

There are so many channels with almost the similar content and let's not get accused by parents and teachers for excessive television watching. After all the remote control is in our hand and we are the final decision makers. We should watch a channel truly for our interest and not because our friend watches it.

Let's not allow TV to eat into our other valuable activities such as playing out doors or visiting friends. Let us also remember, that most cartoons and fables on TV are from a world of make-believe. The real world which lies outside the TV, is far more enchanting and valuable. We only need to observe it with care.

Dr. Neem!

The neem's antiseptic properties are now widely recognized. Neem cures various skin diseases. The leaves applied in the form of poultices or decoctions are also recommended for boils, ulcers etc.

Laboratory tests have shown that neem is effective against certain fungi that infect the human body. Athlete's foot, fungus that causes etc can be treated with a paste of neem leaves. Neem is effective in prevention and cure of bacterial infections.

Neem oil is also an effective mosquito repellent. Neem juice is good for diabetes, fever, cough, dysentery and skin diseases. It is a blood purifier.

dandruff in hair, skin and nails can be treated with neem. Fungus which is a part of the normal flora, can lead to lesions in the mouth, skin, hands and lungs. Neem has been used traditionally in India to treat these and also to cure several viral diseases. Many medical practitioners also believe that small pox, chicken pox ,

Neem extracts have considerable antiseptic effect and are used as skin care agents in soaps and shampoos.

- Kousalya Narendran, Std.IX, Vasant Vihar High School, Thane

Name: **M.R. Nandhini**
Age : 13
Address : 361, (New No.173), Chidambaram Colony, I Floor, Erode - 1.
Hobbies : Coin collecting, watching TV, playing computer games, drawing, reading story books and making new friends.

Name: **Shraddha K.Patil**
Age : 10
Address : B - 303, Mahaganga Soc., Near Sarvesh Hall, Tilak Road, Dom (E).
Hobbies : Playing tennikoit, reading Gokulam and educative books, dancing, watching T.V and drawing.

Name: **B.L. Musheer**
Age : 15
Address : Hoysala house, Sainik School, Bijapur - 586 102.
Hobbies : Surfing and chatting on net, playing basket ball, reading English novels.

Name: **Miss Purnima Tiwari**
Age : 13
Address : Sanctum Sanctorum, Behind tribal Hostel, Kaurin Bhata, Rajnandgaon, CG 491 441.
Hobbies : Reading, playing badminton and carrom, making new friends, listening to music, reading Gokulam, collecting posters of Harry Potter.

Choose Your Buddy!

Name: **Nritika Vijaykumar**
Age : 16
Address : 54, MGR St, Lakshmipuram, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai-41.
Hobbies : Photography, reading books, listening to music, gardening,

playing badminton and making new friends.

Name: **Abdul. Sami**
Age : 10
Address : H.No.260, Ward. 38, Behind Sahu Sadan, Kelabadi, Durg - 1.
Hobbies : Reading story books and comics, painting, playing cricket, reading novels.

Name: **K.R.B.Dhaarani**
Age : 14
Address : 2870, 'Y' block 3rd street, 12th Main Road, Annanagar, Chennai - 600 040.
Hobbies : Reading novels, (Harry Potter too), coin collecting.

Name : **T.A. Karthik Abiram**
Age : 16
Address : 75/3, Kasianna Gounder building, Kheel Thindal, Erode - 9.
Hobbies : Collecting stamps, coins, reading detective stories, Gokulam, playing chess and keeping pets.

Name: **P.Angayarkanni**
Age : 14
Address : C19, 13th

Street, Bhel Nagar, Trichy - 620 015.
Hobbies : Reading Gokulam, painting posters of Harry Potter, watching movies and T.V., playing with friends, chatting, listening to music, singing and partcipating in different competitions.

Name: **Aparajitha Kumar**
Age : 12
Address : No.6, Dhanalakshmi Apts, 122, Pillaiyar Koil Street, Jafferkhanpet, Chennai - 600 083.
Hobbies : Dancing, singing, reading books and listening to music.

Name : **Musheer Lahori,**
Age : 15
Address : R.No.3683, Class X, Hoysala House, Sainik School, Bijapur - 2
Hobbies : Surfing and chatting on internet, playing basket ball, reading novels and making friends.

King Sudharma of Magadh was tense. The Royal Physician had just told him, "Oh king I am not well versed in the treatment of this disease, but my childhood mate, now the Royal Physician of Sindh is... Moreover, this disease can be cured only with a special flower grown in that kingdom. I hope you will get it soon to save our Queen Mother."

Now, King Sudharma was in a dilemma. He remembered that his grandfather had thrown out the grandfather of the present king of Sindh and this enmity had never been reconciled. But his father had taught him love, respect and justice to all beings and saw to it that future generations were peace-loving. But what would Rajasimha, the King of Sindh, do?

'Will he just thrown me out without considering my request or will he take revenge by capturing me?' - These thoughts rushed through Sudharma's mind.

In any case, he decided to give it a try for his mother's sake. His minister warned him against doing so. But King Sudharma took two of his close confidantes to Sindh.

They went around Rajasimha's kingdom. Sudharma was surprised to find that people of Sindh never locked their homes. They never feared theft. He wanted to congratulate Rajasimha when he met him. Instantly, he thought up a plan. He asked one of his men to go and find out what the people of Sindh thought about Magadh. The inquirer came in with the good news that they bore no ill-will towards Magadh.

King Sudharma then discussed

his plan with his men, and started executing it... He deliberately stole a citizen's valuable and at once he was caught and handed over to the Kotwal who produced him before the king of Sindh.

Rajasimha immediately realized that the person before him was not a thief. He had a royal bearing!

The King's Greatness!

Sudharma too,
told him the purpose of his visit.

Rajasimha released Sudharma but refused to give him the flower. Sudharma left for Magadh dejected.

As he reached his palace, his mother came out to hug him. Sudharma was surprised. The physician bowed before him and just took leave with a smile.

"Wait," said Sudharma. The smile on the physician's face gave him away.

"You...you are King Rajasimha aren't you?" asked Sudharma.

"Yes", said Rajasimha removing his turban.

"But you didn't give me the flowers when I asked for them?" said Sudharma.

"But the way you came to get them was not right, my friend," said Rajasimha.

"Sorry, I don't understand how you caught up with me so soon and also this physician's disguise," said Sudharma still confused.

"Our king is a Physician of Physicians, Spy of Spies", said the physician of Sindh, who had come with Rajasimha.

"Enough", Rajasimha humbly stopped his physician.

Then Rajasimha and Sudharma hugged each other and parted as friends forever.

- G. Pranavahitha,
Seetha Kingston House School,
Chennai

Everyone, from teenager to grandmother, needs a web page today. It is the way to talk to the world and connect with people from all over the globe. If you are looking for a way to pick up some skills and make some money this summer, try your hand at designing web pages. Did you know that you can actually build one in a couple of hours? And yes, it is free *[see Window 1 on pg 38]*.

Web pages are written in HTML (Hyper Text Marker Language), which tells the browser when to start and end paragraphs and titles and when to insert images and forms. It can also say what colours to choose and what font to use. We now have the choice of using several other languages to build web pages *[see Window 2]*.

A web page, like a printed page, should be memorable. It should grab a visitor within the first ten seconds, which is the average time a visitor will stay on your page. Experts have some advice for you in this matter. They suggest the following:

- *Have simple, clear, focussed web pages.*
- *Keep graphics, animations, and images to a minimum* so that it doesn't slowdown the speed of the page

loading on the browser.

- *Have your say*: web surfers will move away if they don't read something useful in the first screen to screen and a half.
- *Provide email for contact*; make it easy for people to be in touch with you.
- *Add guest book to the page*; the comments and feedback will be invaluable to get new assignments *[see Window 3]*.
- *View the final web page in the web browser* before publishing it.

Now that you have built your first web page, you might want to keep adding more pages to it. You also realize that the web page is static; you need more freedom and diversity to showcase your work. It is time to build your own website!

A website can have hundreds of web pages and images. Make sure that all pages lead to the homepage. A good website shows off your best work and it enables visitors to navigate the site without getting lost. A website has to be updated frequently by providing new content that will interest visitors to revisit your site. You will find that visitors quickly leave your site if you have blinking effects, noisy music, have pop-ups, too much writing presented in psychedelic colors, tiny font size, and lots of advertisements.

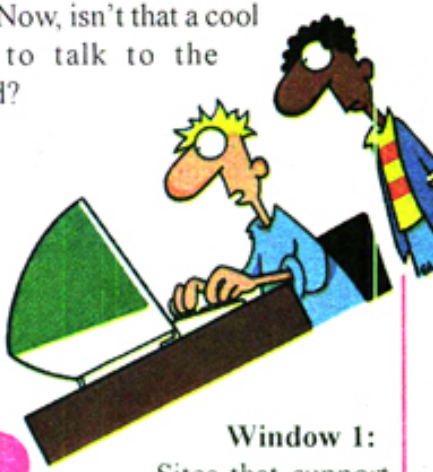
So what works for a web page or a website? Your unique style of writing- serious, funny, or witty- that is your own. Balanced layout, easy to navigate, and

Talking to the World

good pictures. If you are writing in a serious tone, you might not want the writing to be distracted by all the graphics. Plan the pages and ask yourself how you want the page to look. Do you want all text on one side and pictures on the other side? Do you want all your pages to look the same or different? How will you let people know

that there are other pages? Most important question you should be asking yourself is: What is my site going to be about? What will I write about? You could document your family, folktales, town or village, friends, or have it all for yourself *[see Window 3]*. Make sure you spell check, re-read it to make sure there are no grammatical errors.

Once you are satisfied your website looks as you wanted it to be, invite people to view your web page or website. Apply some of their suggestions to improve your page. It is important to advertise your work through your friends and family, by joining newsgroups, and linking your site with others. If your work is neat, you will have people asking you to make web pages or build websites for them. By the end of summer you can achieve many things: a home business, earn pocket money, and learn something that will stay with you all your life! Now, isn't that a cool way to talk to the world?



Grap a visitor within the first 10 seconds

Window 1:

Sites that support free web page:

- *Geocities* : http://geocities.yahoo.com/gcp/home.php
- *Google*: http://pages. google.com/

Window 2:

Learn to make pages with HTML, JAVA, Dream Weaver, Microsoft Word :

- *Simple HTML tutorial*: http://www.smplanet.com/webpage/webpage.html
- *Dream weaver tutorial*:http://www.intranetjournal.com/articles/200002/dream_index.html

Window 3:

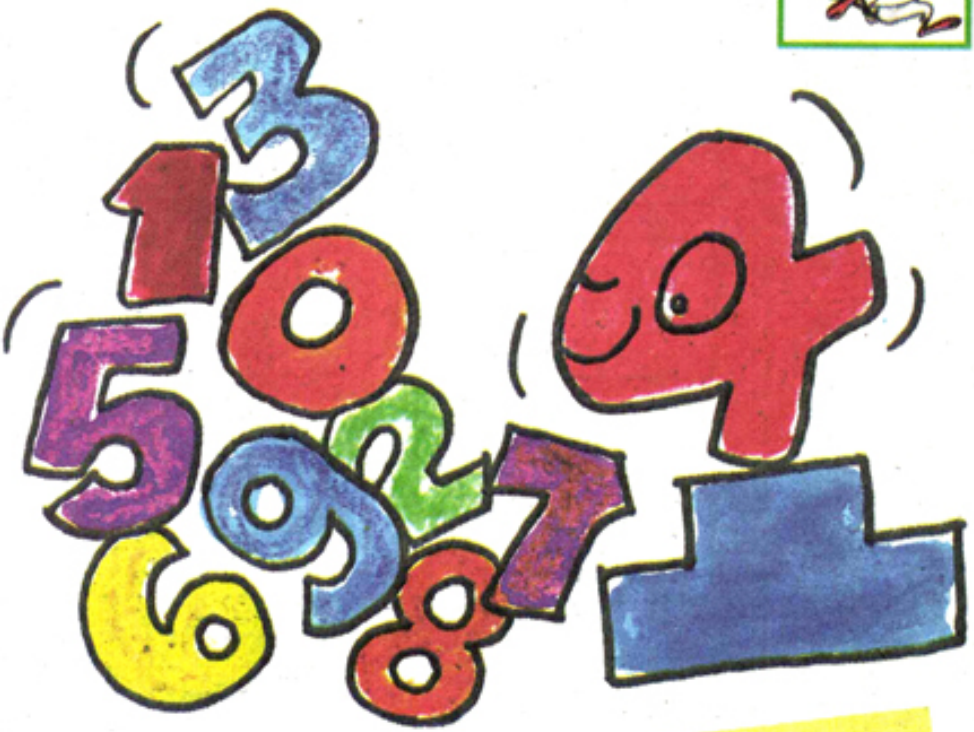
Free programs for your web page:

- *Visitor counter*: http://www.statcounter.com/free_hit_counter.html
- *Animation and art for your web page*: http://www.clip-art.com/

Window 4:

Here are some personal websites you will want to see before you start working on your own:

- *Family homepage*: http://www.kamat.com/
- *Personal pages and network*: http://www.myspace.com/



Number quarrel!

Long long ago, the ten digits had a quarrel as to which one of them was the greatest...

One: I am the first number. So, I am the greatest of all!

Nine: No, I'm the greatest because I have the highest value.

Zero: But I can increase the value of any number just by sitting to its right.

Three: Ha! Ha! Ha! But individually you have no value.

Four: Do you all agree that those who are truthful are the greatest?

Other Numbers: Yes!

Four: Then, I am the greatest, because when you say "n...i...n...e" It has 4 letters, eight has 5 letters 7 has 5 letters, 6 has 3 letters, 5 has 4 letters, three has 5 letters, two has 3 letters, one has 3 letters and zero has 4 letters, but I 'Four' have exactly four letters. F...O...U...R!

- P.Sai Deepak, Std IV, Sainik School, Korukonda

GOKULAM TIME T

Days	1	2	3	4
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednessday				
Thursday				
Friday				
Saturday				

ABLE
5
6
7
8
Dharma.

Instant Photographs!

'Say cheese'... 'Click'...
And out comes the picture

In 1943, a three year old girl asked a very simple question: Why couldn't she look at a photograph of herself as soon as it was taken?

Edvin H.Land, her father, invented a camera the same year, that would enable her do just that! It was called a Polaroid camera.

Take this camera and click , the photograph comes out in two minutes. Whereas, with an ordinary camera , the printed copy will reach us after a much longer a time.

So how does a Polaroid camera work..?

A Polaroid camera can print a black and white snap in 10 seconds and a colour picture in 50 seconds. One side of the cartridge used in the camera, is a negative film roll and the other side is a positive roll. Some containers in which chemicals are filled are connected with the positive roll. While taking the photo, both the positive and negative rolls are exposed. These film rolls will be passed through a pair of rollers which break the containers containing chemicals. In the mean time, the chemical will spread on the negative roll and a negative image will be formed on it. Then the chemicals in the containers spread on the positive roll. When the chemical action is complete, a positive photograph is formed.

In 1972, Land developed a pocket model, which is the modern form of the Polaroid camera.

- Adithya M.Pai,
Std.VIII,
S.C.G.V.U.P.S.,
Kochi

NINA MEHTA

SPIDER IS BACK!

'With great power comes great responsibility,' and in Spiderman 3 that's exactly the challenge that Peter Parker (Toby Maguire) faces. When an alien life form attaches itself to Spiderman and turns our friendly neighbourhood Spiderman into something evil, things begin to go very wrong.

With Peter's good friend Harry Osborne out to destroy Spiderman as Green Goblin Junior, their friendship is put to test in the movie. And if you thought that's all the tension in the movie well, think again. Enter the Sandman, a prison convict, who after an accidental experiment, gets turned into sand. And that's not all! Halfway through the movie, Spiderman turns evil himself and from his usual red and blue suit to a completely sinister black one!

With Spiderman going through a split personality conflict, things turn interesting. Now, Venom, the other new villain in the movie enters the scene. He teams up with Sandman to kill Spiderman.

Will Spiderman be able to defeat two villains? Will Mary Jane, the love of his life, leave him in this mess? Well, that forms the rest of the movie. But it certainly keeps the crowd entertained till almost the end, where the plot, acting and script all start to fumble and lose steam. However for the superhero fans, it's a movie worth watching...once!

In a small village, Naseem, his wife Begum and son Wasim lived happily. They owned a small piece of land and cultivated it. Naseem and Begum wanted their son to study hard and secure a good job in some industry. Wasim promised to fulfil his parents' wishes and worked hard.

One day, a group of people entered their village and started attacking the villagers. They killed Naseem and Begum who went to save him. Wasim was shocked to find himself orphaned and vowed to avenge their death.

As an orphan he was tossed around and led a miserable life without love affection or guidance.

One day three men came to the village and addressed the youth of the village. They convinced many youngsters including Wasim to join them. They took them through a deep forest and crossed into the neighbouring country.

There they were given arms training. Wasim realised that he was trapped into becoming a terrorist. However there was no way he could get out of the situation.

After completing his training at the camp he was sent with fourteen others on a mission. They were asked to wage a 'holywar'. Wasim hated the thought of fighting against his motherland.

At the border, the newly trained

terrorists had to face heavy firing from the Border Security Force. All his companions died and Wasim was fatally wounded.

As he lay bleeding profusely, he realised that he was paying a heavy

price for being misguided by anti-social elements and betraying his motherland. But he also could not forget the day his parents were killed. How he wished his parents could have showered their love and affection on him and guided him as a youth!

He died with a prayer to God that all youth should be nurtured with love and not hatred and that they should be born tough to face any hardships. He prayed that none should betray their motherland by falling prey to extremists as he had done. He realised that terrorists were not born but they were made by the environment and circumstances!

– N. Harish Pranav, Std VIII,

(Please send your complete address)

TERRORISTS ARE NOT BORN...

Dear Children,

If you are keen on getting my advise, you must give your name and full address without fail. But only your name and city will be published to save you from public glare. I cannot answer more than one question per reader at a given time. So, decide on the most important question before writing to me.

- Grandmaworm

Dear Grandma,

I want to become a cricketer, but I have to concentrate on my studies too! Cricket or Study? What shall it be?

- Sibasish Rath, Berhampur

Dear Sibasish,

Ofcourse it has to be both. If you really love cricket don't give it up. But restrict the number of hours you allot for the game. Two hours, I feel, would be enough to give you good practise in all aspects of the game. The rest of your time should be devoted to studies; forget TV and other forms of entertainment. Your academic qualification will stand by you even if you are unable to reach the professional top level as a cricketer.

• • •

I am short for my age and I'm being teased. Please help.

- Ganesha Shastry, Thiruvananthapuram

I'm too tall and I'm often teased by my friends. Please advise. Kindly withhold my name.

Dear Ganesh and dear Anon,

Lord Ganesh himself is short and stout; but don't we all pray for his blessings? Think of all the tall people like Abraham Lincoln who towered over others by their achievements. Don't develop any inferiority com-

Fear - A

plex. Be self - assured. As for the teasing, just laugh along with your friends instead of sulking, and they will soon give up. If you are still in the growing up stage, you can con-

Demon in the Dark!

sult your doctor, and with his permission approach a yogasana expert. Asanas properly done, activate the glands producing hormones which aid growth.

• • •

I read a newspaper or magazine while eating. My father says it's a bad habit. But I can't resist this weakness.

- A.Anees, Fathima, Uthamapalayam

Dear Anees,

Your father is absolutely right. If your mind is not on the food, you will not enjoy its taste. Just gobbling up without relishing will lead to digestive problems. Food must be chewed well, mixed with the saliva and then swallowed. Prepare a daily time table and stick to it, without having to club reading with eating. One thing at a time, and that done well is the only way to be healthy happy and wise.

• • •

I am afraid of darkness; how can I overcome my fear?

- Sathya Jagan, Madurai

Dear Sathya,

If it is just a childish fear, you will get over it as you grow older to realise that light and darkness is part of this world and alternates as day and night. All you have to do is to have a small flash light with you to give you confidence. You can also switch on a night-lamp when you go to bed. If your problem is serious and is causing too much tension or a nervous breakdown, you will have to seek medical advice.

Love,
Grandmaworm

Are you sharp and focussed? Are you interested in learning? - That is one of the indicators of intellectual maturity. Then, do not let emotional immaturity cloud the intellect. If our emotions are not mature enough, we get caught up in them all the time.

It is always better to bundle the bad feelings and thoughts up and throw them in the ocean! That will lead to the path of happiness! We should examine why our spirit goes down. When someone is rude or indifferent to us we get angry or feel low! Don't let this bog you down. Come on! Get up and walk! Don't let your smile be snatched away by anybody!

In the world, not everything will happen perfect, all the time! In every action, there can be some imperfections. Even the best of actions or the greatest of actions, with good intentions, will have some imperfections. Unfortunately our tendency is to go and grab the imperfection and make our self - our mood - imperfect too!

* Photo : Srihari

Lend

So we need to get out of these cycles and be strong from within, courageous from within... and that, which gives us that strength, that courage and that smile, anything that helps us to be-

come unconditionally happy and loving is what is called spirituality.

Old people are not any different from children! We should treat them like kids! They tend to talk the same thing over and over again, without realizing that they have already said it several times! Old people can't be changed overnight or even over a period of time. Infact, there is no need to change old people. We should accept them and understand their point of view.

Sometimes we are unable to see wisdom in what an experienced person would say. So while speaking to them, we need to know that they have a different set of experiences - much different from ours.

We shouldn't get upset because they don't change! If we get upset, then that makes it worse! So we should accept them as they are because we are too young to change them... and we will find a miracle happening. The moment we accept them, they will start to change, slowly...! A lot of patience is required for this. Also, don't take their moods too seriously! Suppose they're upset, don't take it too seriously either; If we do, we will not be able to communicate with them. Don't try to convince them very much! Sometimes, they just want to pour out their heart to us. If they are grumbling, they are just grumbling! They're saying it, but they really don't mean it! Take all those words with a little margin; know that it is just their pattern; they're saying it through their mouth and not their heart. If we don't do this and if we take all their words too seriously, we won't be able to sleep! We will get depressed as well. We won't be able to help them.

Let's learn to enjoy old people!

Your Ear!

All of us have some talent.. Some might be good at drawing, few may be good at dancing , but in music.... Ilayaraja rules! An icon whose music speaks more than himself – that's Isaignani Ilayaraja. (Isaignani - Musico - philosopher) He is a rare musical genius of South Indian Cinema.

Ilayaraja was born on second June 1943, at Pannaipuram near Madurai. Music was his favourite pursuit from childhood. His natural interest for music and ability to compose tunes were identified by his brother Paavalar Varadharajan – a poet, who also encouraged his talent. Ilayaraja's mother, a huge repository of Tamil folk songs, seems to have had a very strong influence over his music.

Raja learned to play the guitar and the piano under the mentorship of Dhanraj master. Later he did a diploma course in music from Trinity College of London. In 1970, he appeared for an exam and came out with a gold medal. In 1976, Ilayaraja composed great melodies for a Tamil film 'Annakili'.

The song 'Janani, Janani, Jagamni..' which he has composed, is truly soul - stirring.

Ilayaraja has composed music for over 840 films and composed over 5000 songs in various Indian languages like Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. With his burning musical sensibility, he is an unbelievably fast composer who does everything from orchestration to writing notation, from recording sounds to balancing of tracks.

He is spiritually inclined and has composed many devotional songs. Ilayaraja is called as 'Maestro'. He has also created a new raga by the name 'Panchamukhi'. Ilayaraja has composed music for Thiruvasagam, a tamil epic. It was an unique attempt to synthesise ideas from both Indian and western classical traditions. He has also created a symphony.

Maestro Ilayaraja has received many awards for his contribution to the world of music – 'National

MAESTRO

Award for Best Music Director' three times for the films Saagara Sangamam (Telugu 1984) , Sindhu Bairavi (Tamil 1986), Rudra Veena (1989). He has also won State Government awards for music composing from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and many more..

Ilayaraja is married to Jeeva and the couple have three children-Karthik Raja, Yuvan Shankar Raja and Bhavatharini who are following the foot steps of their father. All of them are music composers and his daughter is an established playback singer too.

Ilayaraja is truly a 'Jewel' of the Music World!

(Source : Internet)

- Kousalya Narendran,
Std IX,
Vasant Vihar High School,
Thane

ILAYARAJA

KESURAJA AND HIS NOSE

STORY : JINGLE BELL CREATIONS

What is this? Looks like a nose.
Ouch! Don't pull!
It is not coming off!
Kelu pulled harder.
Pluck
Oof!
I must escape.
Help! Help! My nose has gone!

People came running.
Help! Help! My nose!
I can fix you with a donkey's nose.
Thus-
Bray...y.. Bray...y..
Eh?
Off with this nasty thing!
Mantri, can you give me your nose?
I? Uh...
Mantri is running away!

My queen is running away too. Nobody wants to give me a nose.
The disappointed king gave out a proclamation.
Ten thousand gold coins for the one who gives the king a nose
Still nobody came forward.
How can we part with a nose?
Kelu the thief happened to hear that.
Ten thousand gold coins for a nose?
I'll give the king the big nose that I have.
Kelu went in the guise of a sadhu.
Your majesty, I have a nose for you.

Eh?
Here!
Hooray! I've got my nose back!
?!
What about my gift?
You thief! You want a reward for stealing my nose?
Guards! Imprison him!
Oh no!
How were You so sure that he was the thief?
Ha! Ha! Mantri, my nose never errs!

A for Australia where Kangaroos roam.

B for Bangladesh, which's close to our home.

C for China, with its great wall.

D for Denmark with the best cheese of all.

E for Egypt with Pyramid attraction.

F for France, the nation of high fashion

G for Germany with soccer champions.

H for Hungary surrounded by mountains.

I for India, a culture-filled country.

J for Japan, an example of Industry.

K for Kenya, bearing speakers of Swahili.

L for Libya, whose capital is Tripoli.

M for Mexico, yes... there sun hats are the best.

N for Nepal, which boasts is of Mt. Everest.

O for Oman, with the great Sultan.

P for our own neighbour Pakistan.

Q for Qatar ; there is no other country name starting with 'Q'.

R for Romanio, whose currency is Leu.

S for Sri Lanka, which looks like a tear drop.

T for Thailand, a great tourist shop.

U for Uzbekistan, boasting of Margkahis.

V for Venezeula, or the little Venice.

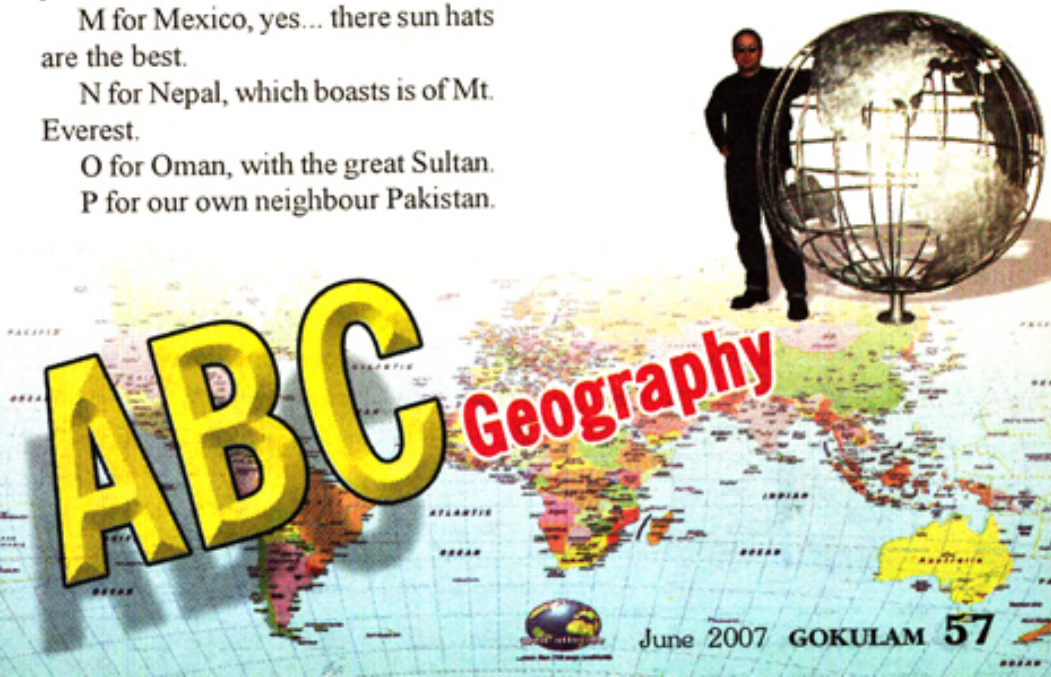
W for Western Samoa, where islands get together

X for nothing.... there's no country beginning with that letter.

Y for Yugoslavia, comprising of : territories.

Z for Zambia with people, enjoying sour berries!

- R. Anush Alagappan, Chennai



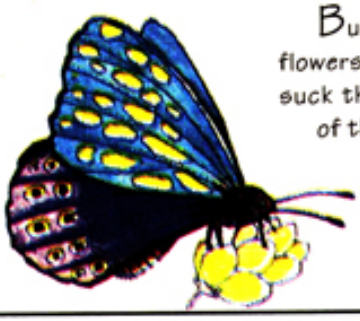
BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

AAZHI

Though butterflies and moths look very similar they are very different. There are many more scales on the body of moths than that of butterflies. There is even a difference in the antennae of the two insects.

Butterflies can be seen only during day time, but moths come out only at night. During the day they hide under wooden planks or corners of old crumbled buildings.

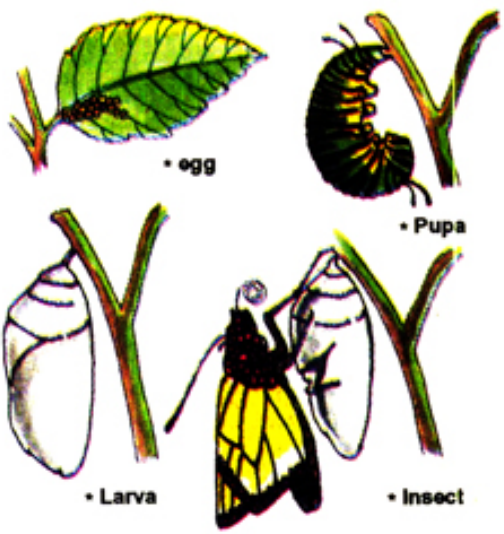
When butterflies sit, they hold up their wings; whereas the moth keeps its wings outspread while sitting.



Butterflies, and moths - feed on the nectar from flowers. With the help of the tubes in their mouth, they suck the nectar. Both insects have two eyes and each of the eyes is made up of 1000 small eyes! Therefore its called a compound eye.

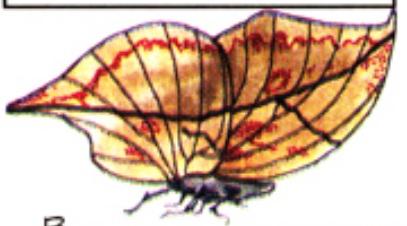
There are approximately 10,000 types of butterflies. Butterflies lay eggs only on the specific tree exclusive to their type. A thought to ponder upon: If 10,000 types of butterflies lay eggs, it requires atleast 10,000 types of trees!

Life span: - Butterflies have four stages in their life cycle.



The world's largest butterfly is, 'Bird's Feather'. The wings of this butterfly when stretched, measure up to 31 c.m. When it flies, it looks almost like a bird!

The smallest butterfly is the 'Pygmy'. It measures one centimetre in length.



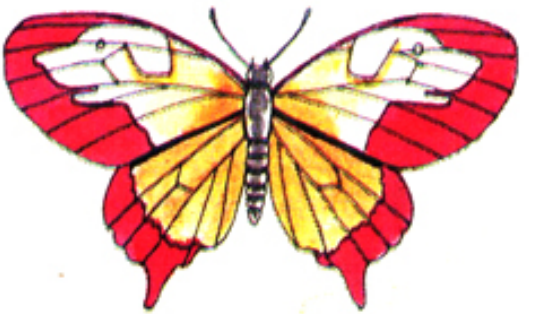
Butterflies in Asian countries reside mostly on dead leaves and their wings also look like dead leaves. When the 'Dead leaf' butterflies sit on a leaf, it is very hard to distinguish between the leaf and the insect.

In Costarica, the figure 88 can be seen on the wings of a particular variety of butterfly.

'Monarch' butterflies fly around 3000 k.m.s from East Canada to South Mexico yearly. These butterflies can fly for 1000 kms at a stretch even through heavy winds. It is astonishing that the small body of the butterfly holds so much energy for flying such amazing distances. After going to South Mexico, they lay eggs and die. The butterflies born from these eggs, fly back to East Canada which is the origin of the mother. It is one of the greatest wonders of Nature.

There is a butterfly which has two cross designs on its wings and it is a native of Scotland. People of Scotland consider it sacred.

'Dog head' butterflies of South America have dog - like figures on their wings.



It is very difficult to follow one single butterfly and observe its life cycle. In South America, a radar mechanism is used to trace the life cycle of a butterfly. This tiny radar instrument is fitted to the abdomen of the butterfly. The sound waves produced by this system are used by scientists to keep a track of the butterfly's movement. This instrument weighs just a fraction of the butterfly.

In some South American countries, colourful, live butterflies are given as birthday gifts. For this reason, butterflies are bred and exported by Coloumbia.

MOTHS

There are a thousand varieties of moths. The biggest among the moths is the 'Atlas Moth'. There are map like figures seen on the wings of these moths. When the wings are spread, they extend to 30 c.m. The smallest moth is 'Midget Spot Kin'. It is just 2 mm in length.

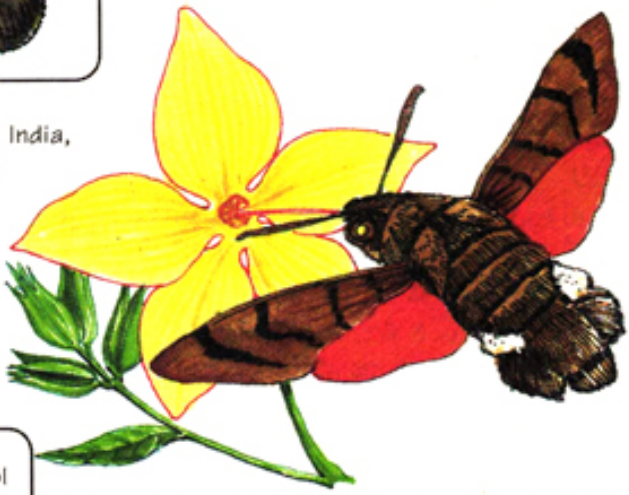
The 'Hawk Moth' of Mexico has longest floral tube. It is two times the length of its own body.

The only creature on earth to lay a rectangular shaped egg is the 'Thorn Moth'.

The 'Emperor Moth' spreads a unique smell. Male Emperor Moths identify mates by this smell, even at a distance of five k.m. They have powerful antennae to aid them.

'Owl Moth' is a type of moth whose wing span resembles the face of an owl When there is a danger, these moths spread their wings and lie flat on the ground. Their fierce appearance keeps predators away.

In the forest of South India, there are 'Humming Moths' which are half the size of a small bird. A loud humming sound is made by the flapping of their wings.



There are 'Death Symbol Moths' in Canada. The body of this moth has a skull and cross bones figure!

The 'Sphynx Moth' looks like the ancient Egyptian sphynx. It looks scary and the enemies flee from it. 'Sphynx Moths' can be seen in Thailand.

Krishna's

In the ancient poem 'Kokasandesam', Guruvayoor is reffered to as 'Kuruvayoor'. The idol at the Guruvayoor temple is that of Lord Vishnu. But today the temple is known as Sree Krishna Temple. Nevertheless, Sree Krishna is actually an incarnation of Maha Vishnu.

Sree Krishna was the son of Vasudeva and Devaki. They worshipped an idol of Maha Vishnu. After the demise of his parents, Krishna brought this idol to Dwarka and worshipped it as his parents used to.

When the **'Yadava'** dynasty to which Lord Krishna belonged, gradually met with extinction, Sree Krishna prepared himself to enter into eternity (the heavenly kingdom). So Sree Krishna settled his presence and power in the Vishnu idol which he had been worshipping. After having made all the arrange- ments for the installation of the image, Sree Krishna entered heavenly

Presence and Power!

abode, and the whole of Dwaraka sank deep into the sea.

Later, the idol was retrieved by the Guru of the Devas, called Brahaspati and Vayu (wind god), and installed in the place where we see it today. As it was placed by "Guru and Vayu" the place came to be known as Guruvayoor and the deity as Guruvayoorappan. Today people look upon this deity as saviour of mankind. Guruvayoor is in Kerala.

On the day of 'Pooyam' or 'Pooram' star in the month of 'Kumbam' (March) the hoisting of the festival flag takes place at Guruvayoor. For ten days, people from near and far throng to Guruvayoor. The temple premises are decorated with colour bulbs and festoons. Elephant-race is an important part of the festival. The elephant which comes out first in the race gets the privilege of carrying the Lord's idol during the ritualistic procession. Guruvayoorappan has a fancy for elephants! Now there are more than fifty elephants, under the care of Guruvayoor Devastanam.

This is the only temple which hosts the famous offering of 'Thula Bharam'. The devotee weighs himself at the temple and offers an item of his choice, equal to his own weight. The offerings range from sugar candy to tulasi; from butter to gold! There is a huge balancing pan which is used for this purpose.

- Shruti R.S.,
Std XI,
Delhi

Paper Bat

Materials: Ivory sheet, confetti, empty tissue paper roll, glue, colours or paints, thermocol cup, sticking tape, scissors.

Method: Take an empty tissue paper roll and at the bottom portion of the roll draw ^ and cut that part as shown in fig. 1. Now take a thermo coal cup and fix it into the roll and stick it with tape. While sticking, ensure that the upper portion of the cup sits on the cut portion of the roll. The narrow bottom of the cup will form the bat's face.

Now draw wings on the ivory sheet as shown in figure 2 and cut it. Stick it to the roll with tape. Colour the bat black. Let it dry. For eyes, legs, mouth draw as shown in the figure 3. Cut it and colour the legs and ears in black. As bats look scary when they laugh, their mouth should be coloured red and given an outline of black. Stick the ears, legs, mouth on the bat. For eyes, take two confetti and mark a dot in each with black colour and stick above the mouth. Your paper bat is ready.

Note : You can make many bats and hang them on the wall or on a stand.

- Sreena Nair, Savali,
Vadawali section, Thane

Gogo's Grid -11

Send in your entry after filling in the form on the reverse of this page.

Y	X	P	A	R	D	E	E	D	E	E	E
R	E	T	X	E	D	O	P	I	I	G	S
E	J	S	I	Q	N	Y	S	N	U	J	E
A	G	R	U	A	S	H	N	R	A	E	N
R	O	Z	X	O	A	I	G	H	M	R	O
P	F	P	S	T	M	N	I	U	R	R	T
Q	F	H	A	I	A	Y	D	I	R	Y	S
A	Y	N	S	N	J	H	E	E	O	P	N
C	M	T	W	E	E	T	Y	K	H	A	I
O	Y	I	O	V	A	R	A	Z	C	K	L
O	V	K	N	M	B	R	A	I	C	I	F
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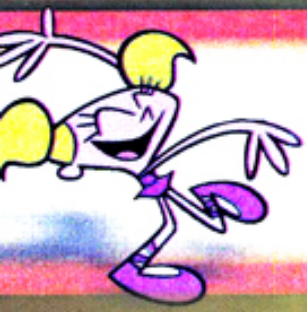


Can you spot twelve cartoon characters hidden in this grid? Try joining up the right sequence of letters vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards or forwards. This grid has been put together by **B.P. Vivek, Chennai**

RESULTS in Anniversary Issue

Dear children,

The results of the viewpoint, **Gogo's Grid - 10** and **HP meets JKR** competition will be published in the July 2007, Anniversary issue of Gokulam. Keep your fingers crossed till then! Here's wishing you good luck!

- Editor

Gogo's Grid - 11 ENTRY FORM

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

..... Pin .....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

• Strictly for school going children • Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. • Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only • No xerox copies.

Last Date : 10.06.2007

ANNOUNCING

The beginning of Gokulam's 20th year! New Columns! New Contests! Look forward to more exciting reading, from July 2007 issue onwards!

Calling for Contributors

We welcome your suggestions to improve your favourite magazine. The anniversary issue of Gokulam will have a new and exciting look. Be creative, Be a contributor for the new Gokulam. Here are few columns for which you can contribute. Take pride to participate in the anniversary issue , Gokulam July 2007.

- You may cover a special event taking place in your school. Get your coverage certified by your principal or class teacher. Include photographs of the event if possible. Send it to 'School Slot'.

- Choose your favou-rite city and send snippets about all aspects of the city.

Remember to send in your details such as **name, age, class, school, residential address and phone number.** Though we may be unable to publish all your contributions, do not be disheartened- we would like you to know that every snippet you send is read, considered and evaluated by us.

Please be original in your writing. If you compile from a source, remember to mention it.

An Unforgettable Cycle ride

I was three years old, when my father bought a new cycle. I wanted to ride the bi-cycle but I didnot know how to ride. My father made me sit on the carrier and took me for a ride. After sometime, I realised that my leg was stuck inside the wheel. I started shouting and asked my father to stop. He stopped the cycle and saw my leg caught inside the wheel. Immediately he hired an auto and we went straight to the hospital where the injury was bandaged. I was asked to take rest for two months. On my way back home, I saw a few people cleaning the road My father told me that it was my blood which they were cleaning! My father asked me to be more alert and careful. On my recovery, I developed 'Leptospirosis'. I was hospitalised for 21 days. It was a terrible experience not only for me but also for my family. Even If I forget the incident, the scar on my ankle will remind me

- M. Vishalakshi, Std VI, K.V, Thrissur

Hasty Submission

It was the day of English exam. I had prepared well . I managed to finish the paper well before time. Just then, I caught sight of one of my friends' question papers and found out that I had not turned the paper and missed questions worth 15 marks! I requested the inviglator to give back my test notebook. She scolded me for being so careless and just then the bell rang. I lost all hope. Suddenly I was called to the staff room. My class teacher asked me to finish the paper within five minutes. She said that I would get two marks less for my carelessness. From that day onwards, I always check my paper twice and never submit my answer scripts in a haste.

- Kavya Bharat, Std VI, Sishya School , Chennai

Old Friend

Once I participated in a quiz contest along with my friends. At the end of the program me, before a break, I was talking with one of my friends. Suddenly I noticed a boy staring at me. I didn't know who he was. He slowly came near me and asked, "Are you Saravanan?" I was astounded. After a few seconds, I recognised him - my old friend Rasiq! We were good friends in third standard. I was happy to meet him after seven years. We exchanged our phone numbers and promised to stay in touch forever.

- G. Saravanan, Std X, Justice Basheer, Ahmed Sayeed New.M.H.S.S, Chennai

God's Gift!

Once I was travelling in an overcrowded local train to reach the examination centre. Suddenly there was a conflict between the passengers. Everyone started quarrelling, using abusive language. While returning home, I was waiting for the train. On the platform, I saw a group of school-going boys and girls. I observed them closely and came to know that they were deaf and dumb. They were communicating through gestures and their specialized language.

The power of speech is God's gift. We must not waste it by criticizing or abusing anyone.

- Ankita Patil, Thane

Ramu *(to his close friend)* : Somu, I want to share every thing with you.

Somu : Let us start with your bank account.

- V.Somya, Std.IX, MGCV, Trichy

Sharpen Your Wit!

"What are the two most deadly places in the world?"
"The Tropic of Cancer and The Dead Sea."

- Anirudh Govindhan, Grade II, Maurice Hawk Elementary, Princeton Jct, New Jersey.

I. PUZZLER

I am a seven letter city. My 2,3,4 letters forms a bird. 1,2,7,4 is a part of our face. 4,7,1,3 is a way of saying good, 7,1,3 makes you cool. 4=5. Guess who I am???

- M.Vinodh, Aruppukottai.

II. TRICK YOUR FRIEND

1. Ask your friend to pick any number
2. Then add the number with its immediate higher number.
3. Add 9 to the sum.
4. Divide the answer by 2.
5. Now ask your friend to subtract the original number from it.

Your friend's answer will always be 5!

(Source: Internet)

- J.Subhalakshmi, Std. IX, Jaigopal Garodia School. Chennai

2. What do you give a frog?

- M.Jegan,
Std.VII, Coimbatore

III. RIDDLE DEE RIDDLE!

1. Which colour do we eat?
2. Which is the richest bird?
3. Which city is unmarried?
4. Why is 'B' very cool?

- S.P. Keerthana,
Std. V,
Chinmaya Vidhyalaya,
Hyderabad

V. KEEP GUESSING!!!

1. Which room has no walls, floor, ceiling or window?
2. What goes through water but does not get wet?
3. When I travel I remove my cap, When I rest I put it on, Do you know who I am?

- K.Vamsi,
Hussain Memorial School,
Ambattur

IV. ANIMAL HOSPITAL

1. What do you give a sick bird?

Answers:

I. PUZZLER
Chennai

III. RIDDLE DEE RIDDLE
1.Orange 2.Ost'Rich'
3.Kanyakumari! 4.It is in-between A.C

IV. ANIMAL HOSPITAL!
1.Twecitment 2.A Hoperation
3.Pen

V. KEEP GUESSING!!!
1.Mushroom 2.A ray of light

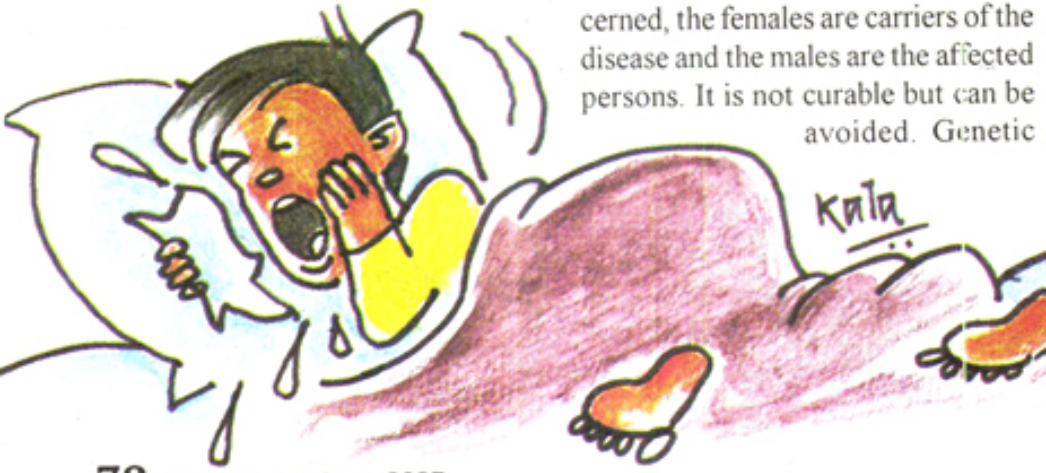
What is Colour

● **G.Sreevandana, Chennai**

? What is Colour Blindness? Is it curable?

! Colour blindness is a disease characterised by inability to distinguish clearly the colours of the spectrum. In most cases it is not a blindness but a weakness in perceiving them distinctly. There are two forms of colour blindness. Daltonism is the most common form and is characterised by an inability to distinguish red from green. It is an inherited disorder. Total colour blindness or Achromatic Vision is characterized by inability to perceive any colour at all. Only white, grey and black are seen.

In human beings, the retina of the eye contains certain highly specialized colour sensitive cells called cones. A defect or absence of cones in the retina results in colour blindness. As far as this disease is concerned, the females are carriers of the disease and the males are the affected persons. It is not curable but can be avoided. Genetic



counselling before marriage is a very useful measure to avoid it. By avoiding marriages between blood related persons and by prenatal diagnosis, one can prevent colour blind offsprings.

- **M.Saravanaa Bharati, New Delhi**

? How can Tuberculosis (TB) be prevented?

! The persons who are suffering from tuberculosis should take prompt treatment. This help in controlling the spread of tuberculosis to others. It is spread mostly through the air. People cannot get infected with TB bacteria through handshakes, sitting on toilet seats, or sharing dishes and utensils with someone who has TB. TB patients should always cover their mouth with a kerchief when they cough, sneeze, or laugh. They should avoid close contact with others and sleep in a separate room, if possible. BCG vaccine is available to prevent it. This vaccine should be given soon after the birth of a baby.

- **G.Arunadevi, Palani**

? What is cochlear implant?

What is the difference between hearing aid and cochlear implant?

! Cochlear implant represents a surgical procedure to restore lost hearing. A set of electrodes are implanted surgically into the inner ear. It has an external part called speech processor that and collects sound, processes it and stimulates the implanted electrodes under the skin. The external device and implant come together by magnetic coupling. A hearing aid amplifies sound and sends it to the ears whereas cochlear implant stimulates the hearing nerve present in the inner ear. Children and adults who are severely deaf can undergo this implant.

Blindness?

Let the MAGIC

As most of the Gokulam readers eagerly await the release of 'Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows' on July 21st, 2007, one can't help but wonder what will happen after the story ends? What will happen to the magic that Ms. Rowling and Harry have spread throughout the world? It won't be correct to say that this would disappear at the end of a series of books. This series is special and the world is gearing up to give it a special fare-well. It has been already reported that the last book will have an initial print of 12 million copies and a deluxe edition will have an initial print of 100000 copies. But according to me, the best ways to say good-bye to Harry and his world would be to capture the magic in our hearts forever. We should never forget what an impact the series of books has made on the world.

Thanks to Harry, the book industry suddenly revived. Many aspiring writers tried to create similar magic. Harry has succeeded in inculcating the reading habit in over 35 million people!

For me, the magic will never end. Like everyone else, I am waiting to know what happens in the end. And when I finish the last page of 'The Deathly Hallows', I will most probably feel satisfied that I have discovered something great! Let the magic live on!

– R.Aditya Krishna Haas,
Std XII,
Alphores Jr.College,
Karimnagar

Radcliffe's Random Thoughts

Here's an interview with Daniel Radcliffe...

Is he like Harry?

"I'm quite like him. Harry's so multidimensional that everyone can find something in themselves that Harry has, too. He's not one of those haughty superheroes."

Does he believe in magic?

"I have always believed in magic a hundred percent. I'm fascinated by it."

What would he study in college?

"Psychology"

LIVE ON!

What would he become when he grows up?

"When I grow up, I might be... a writer or I might like to be a director."

As far as dating goes....

"I'm flattered by fan letters, it's really amazing. But I don't have a girlfriend or anything."

– Sai Prasanna,
Std IX,
Bethel Mat.Hr.Sec.School

THE MOST POWERFUL WIZARD OF ALL TIME!

A wizard, second to none.
Can you guess who was the one?
His long silvery beard and hair
Gleam in a style so rare

Half moon shaped spectacles he did wear,
That his very crooked nose did bear
The twinkle in his eyes,
Would make Harry's courage rise.
Fawkes the Phoenix was his pet,
Help from him you'd always get.
The only one Voldemort ever feared
The lost prophecy he had heard.
The best headmaster of Hogwarts School,
The well known wizard, so very cool
He was Albus Percival Wulfuric Brian Dumbledore,
A name that we will always adore!

– N. Mamatha, Std VIII,
Goodwills GHS, Bengalooru

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Nidhi celebrates her first birthday on 17th of June.

"Happy Birthday dear Nidhi, may God bless you!"

With love,
Grandparents,
Parents,
Mack Mama & Mami

R.Shruthi celebrates her fifth birthday on 13th of June.

"We wish you a very happy and pleasant birthday and a prosperous future!"

With best wishes
loving elder sister
Vaishnavi and family

MANY HAPPY RETURNS...

A Captain from

1) Promotions, Demotions!

Do you think only schools demote poor performers? Read this :

Mens' hockey has been demoted from 'Priority' category to 'General' category. The announcement has arrived straight from the Sports Ministry. Reason? Poor performance of the players.

The players have disappointed not just in one or two tournaments, but in almost all the events that they participated. Alongside hockey, football, taekwondo, swimming, cycling, volleyball, fencing and karate have also been demoted.

* Kasparov

* Messidona

Now, the promotion list : Squash, Wushu and kayaking/canoeing. These have been promoted to the 'Priority' category!

Coming back to hockey... will this piece of news affect the spirit of the players? "No" says IHF President, K.P.S. Gill. "I don't think it's going to have much of an impact on Indian hockey. It only means that we will get less funds and we have not been getting much assistance from the Ministry anyway. So in real terms, it is not going to have much effect on the game."

Tailpiece : The hockey team has done pretty well in the recently concluded Azlan Shah hockey tournament held in Malaysia!

2) Sania, Sania

After a gap of two and a half months, Sania is back in action

She suffered a minor injury while playing in the Qatar Open, in Doha, in February. This is the third time that Sania picked up an injury. As a result of this, she lost two places to reach the 50th in the latest WTA rankings.

3) Who is Messidona?

Lionel Messi-

* Sania

Chennai?

dona - the Argentine soccer star, who was accused of drug abuse and obesity, is up in the news, again- this time for the right reason.

Messi has scored a goal similar to Diego Maradona's classic solo effort against England at the 1986 World Cup.

As a football enthusiast remarks, 'Messi beat five players, covering 48 metres in 12 seconds, taking 10 touches with his left foot and three with his right. 'Maradona beat six players, covering 62 metres in 11 seconds, taking 12 touches with his left foot only.'

Barcelona-based dailies refer to Messi as 'Messidona!'

4) Big Bid!

2014 Asian Games is not going to be held in India. But the Indian Olympic Association is not ready to accept the fact, just like that. The Association has announced that it will bid for the rights to host the event at least for the year 2020.

5) Kasparov 100

Garry Kasparov is included in Time magazine's list of the most influential people of the year 2007. It's a survey not only of the most powerful or the most popular, but also the most influential.

6) A Captain from Chennai?

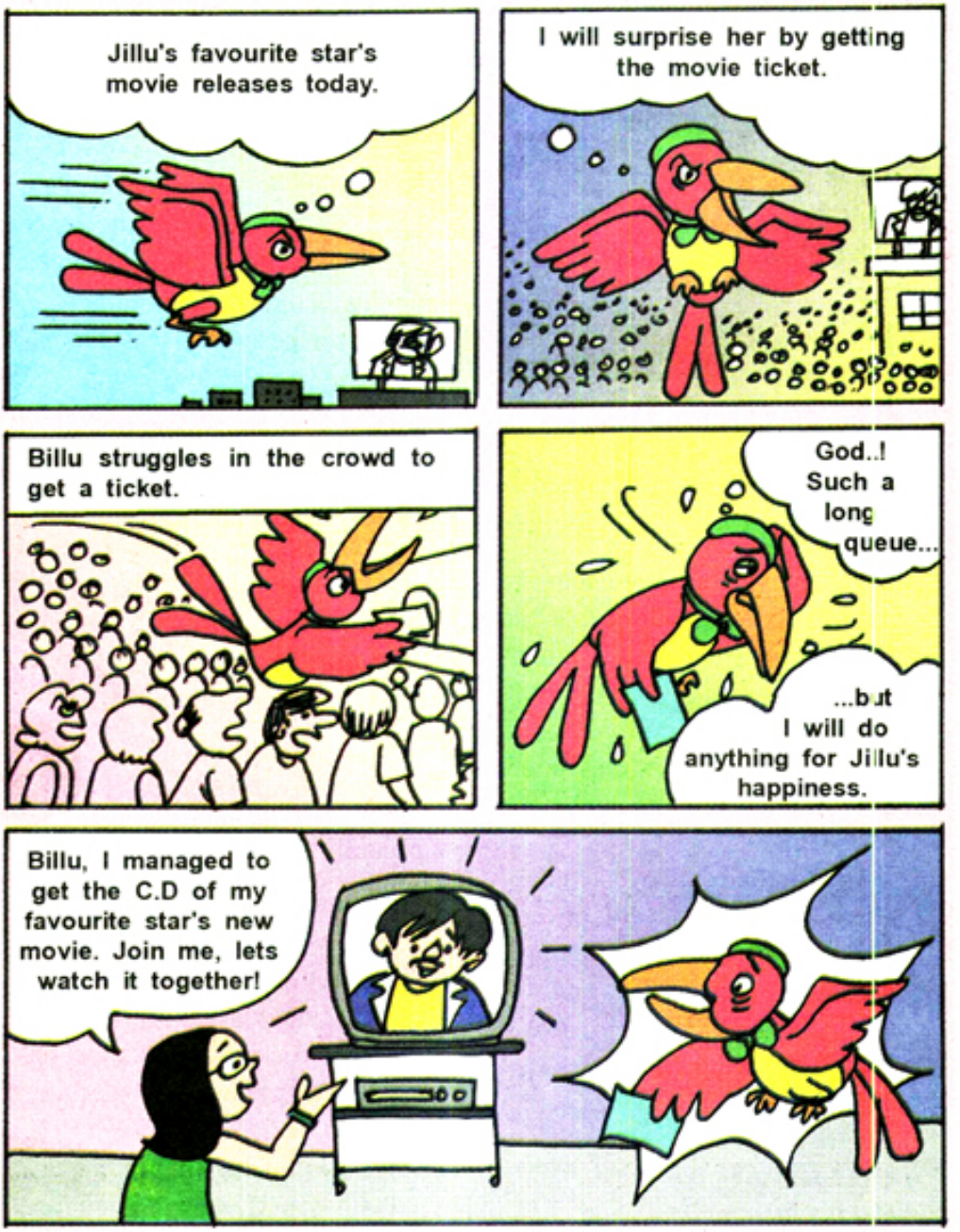
Chennai based cricketer Dinesh Kartik presented India, victories in the recently concluded one day series with Bangladesh.

Former coach Greg Chappel has predicted that Dinesh Kartik might soon become a Captain and will lead the team.

A big compliment, indeed.

BILLU

Stroy, Pictures:
Pillai



UPASANA DAS
Std. VIII,
Loyola School, Bhubaneswar

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